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SECRETARY NOBLE AGAIN.

Secretary Noble has written a letter in
answer to the one sent to him by Gov.
Hill, which expostulated against the in-
adequate census of the Federal officials.
The dominant tone of this letter, written
by a Cabinet officer to the Governor of the
greatest State in the Union, is one of puerile
petulance. It is full of charges against
Gov. Hill, to whom the unwelcome moti-
ves are ascribed, and with a virulence
wholly in bad taste.

The public cannot read this letter of the
Secretary of the Interior without feeling
how deplorably it lacks the calm imperson-
ality which should characterize an
official communication from the head of a
State Department. Everybody will realize
from the most cursory reading of the docu-
ment that Mr. John W. Noble lost his
head and tried to "let down" the Governor
by pouring out the vitals of his wrath upon
him.

The Secretary also displays an animus
quite akin to this in his letters to Mr. W. J.
K. KENNEY, the accredited representative
of Mayor Grant to him in this matter of
the census. He made demands for a sur-
render of the proofs of accuracy in the offi-
cial census which Mr. KENNEY holds in his
hands.

Mr. KENNEY declared his readiness to sub-
mit these proofs to the Secretary at any
time or place he might elect, but firmly con-
tended for his right to be present during
their examination.

Secretary Noble therefore retorts, with a
more decided pout, that he will not tolerate
the suspicion of the Department indicated
by Mr. KENNEY's course, and tells him that
he must either do as he (the Secretary) says
or he can take his proofs away and he will
proceed with the business without them.
Criticism on this course of Secretary Noble
is quite unnecessary.

FIX THE RESPONSIBILITY.

A terrible collision took place on the
Delaware, Lackawanna and Western Rail-
road yesterday afternoon between an ex-
press train and a coal train. Four lives
were sacrificed, a number of passengers in-
jured and a considerable amount of prop-
erty lost. The cause of the disaster was
attributed to a blunder.

The youthful telegraph operator at Rock
Cut, the scene of the disaster, "thought"
that the switch had not been set and rushed
out and turned it. The express train, de-
flected from its right course, thundered
along into the coal train.

The horrible consequences of such
"thoughts" as this on the part of men
whose responsible position should lead
them to be so well informed as to their
duties that they need not think, but know,
make the public wince. It is so hard to
call a man to severe account when the in-
tegrity of his purpose is beyond question.
It was to avoid precisely what he recited
that the young telegraph operator rushed
breathlessly down and turned the switch.

But such mistakes are offenses and ought
not to be condoned. Punishment should
attend them if for no other reason than to
set an example to others who have re-
sponsible places of trust. It is a misguided
mercy which merely shields over such mis-
takes and regrets them.

TIMELY DETECTIVE WORK.

A man named NIXON was arrested for a
burglary committed in Pacific street,
Brooklyn, last August. While the burglar
was robbing the room of a young woman
she took a good look at him, and afterwards
confidently identified NIXON as the man.

Subsequently a man arrested for another
burglary was suspected by a detective to
be the Pacific street burglar. The detective,
who is credited with meretricious power, so
worked on the burglar that he confessed to
him that he was the one who committed
the burglary, for which NIXON was in jail.

awaiting trial. He bore a marked resem-
blance to NIXON.
Whatever may be thought of the detec-
tive's meretricious power, it is a satisfaction
to know that an innocent man has not paid
the penalty of a criminal's evil deed.

MISS CAROLINE STOKES PHILLIPS has pur-
chased a lot in Ansonia, Conn., on which
she will erect a handsome public library.
It will be endowed sufficiently to make the
purchase of books and everything needed for
its full equipment an assured thing.
Miss Phillips's family has always had great
business interests in Ansonia. Such a
spirit of public beneficence is highly com-
mendable and is one of the best exam-
ples.

CHARLES PRATT got disgusted with life
and took several drinks and attempted to
take his life yesterday. He was unsuccess-
ful in the second attempt, being a greater
expert at drinking than at suicide. When
he found that he had cut his throat a little
he rushed to the police station and told of
his attempt. Suicide is not bravery, but it
requires some determination. One ought
to fully make up his mind to it before at-
tempting it.

A steer had an outing the other day in
Williamsburg, and his triumphant progress
was marked by the arrival of hospital am-
bulances. There was no sense of gallantry
in the brute for he bowed over a dear old
lady who was doing him no harm whatever.
He was eventually lassoed.

If Dr. HOWARD CROSBY's charge that a
police captain netted \$70,000 in one year as
a blackmailing crop be true, how mad the
other captains must be!

The barkeepers of New York City would
like to have election day come once a week
at least. Reform in ballot has not yet
touched the lay-room.

Somebody has dug up a pot containing
\$5,000 in gold. What luck some people
have!

SPOTLETS.

When a belle dies she does not bill her as such
her tombstone. It would ring the bells of her
friends.

When Patti takes to leaving promissory notes she
will be taken for her face value, perhaps.

When it is question of a stocking, the best of
men may put his foot in it.

Baby McKee's nurse is a constant shock to him.
Miss Kate Bluck will induce the statement.

A capital maid, the minister said,
As the couple before him stood,
The service was said and the couple were wed—
The wedding girl and the father.

A burglar hated to cross a creek as badly as a cat
does.

One remedy for constipation is to keep away
everything that can be consumed.

It seemed fit for such a leader as Mr. Croft, the
West Virginia outlaw, to be a heavily loaded article
at his death.

A poor man hit by a piece of flying rock was not
temperament of speech when he said the blasted
rock hurt him.

People who are not fond of politics in the pulpit
think a minister's salary should be looked for certain
preachers in this town.

WORLDLINGS.

The interesting information is vouchsafed that
Blanche White Howard (now Mrs. Tenfold), the
author, has a different finger-ring for every day
in the year.

Many people consider the Emperor of Austria the
richest man in Europe. At any rate, his wealth is
incalculable, and in his charities he is most munifi-
cent. Very recently he paid out of his own
private fortune the sum of \$500,000 for the relief of
the sufferers from the inundation.

Queen Margherita, of Italy, is fond of smoking,
and is said to have declared that her cigarette is
more essential to her comfort than anything else in
life.

One of the most valuable of the curiosities in the
National Museum at Washington is the set of
Japanese gold coins in the Great collection. It is
the only complete set in existence, except the one
in the Japanese treasury, and is worth thousands of
dollars.

Squire Rob Allison, of Fairport, the Great Green
of Wisconsin, makes the boast that he has married
100 women couples.

ATHLETES IN REPOSE.

D. E. Sturges, of the New York Bicycle Club,
who is one of the most preserving long-distance
riders in the club, is only thirty years old. He is
dubbed the "Little Wonder" by his club-mates.

George M. Hendon, famous for so long a time
in the bicycle world, had several records during his
athletic career. He developed very early, being a
well-built man even at that tender age. He is now
in business in this city.

C. M. Moffat, who is the latest addition to the Greenfoot football team, who relieves Bull at the full-back, is the famous ex-Princeton player who won the marvel of the football world last year.

He is now in the publishing busi-
ness in this city.

Baseball A La Mode.

(From Life.)

"Look out, Sport, it's low ball!"

"Home run."

No Danger.

(From Luck.)

James—What are you doing now?
Spencer—I am writing the lives of great men
for a Biographical Dictionary that is being
published. Aren't you afraid to undertake work
of that sort?
James—No! The men I am writing about
are all dead.

A Legal Tit.

(From Luck.)

Friend—(a young lawyer)—Well, I'll be
banged!
Old Friend—(a young lawyer)—Well, I'll be
banged!
Old Friend—(a young lawyer)—Well, I'll be
banged!

MOORE'S PATENT.

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THE WAYS OF WOMAN FAIR. CHANGES AT THE THATHES.

Fads, Fancies and Fashions That
Delight the Gentler Sex.

Factory Girls Who Earn But
Fifty Cents a Day—The Smart,
Close-Fitting Street Gown—
Increasing Trade in
Cast-Off Garments.

POST PATRON.

The second week of Tony Victor's "double
company" at the little theatre in East Four-
teenth street began last night as auspiciously
as the first. The house was crowded and the
performance an excellent one. It included
Tony Victor himself, Miss Jessie Bonnell,
Stagge Clark, Lottie Gorman, Musical Dair,
the national trio, the three Haytows, Seelye and
West, the Kates, Hendricks, Turle and
Turle, clever gymnasts; the Coleman Sisters,
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"THE STEPPAUGHTER."

A sweet little thing in plays, called "The
Stepdaughter," was presented at the Windsor
Theatre, on the Bowery, last night, and ap-
pealed so strongly to the audience that men
and women snickered at the wrong time. A
bore, ridiculous creation in "The Step-
Daughter," into which all the horrors yet in-
vented are crowded to be "divined up" by
plenty of broad burlesque humor on the sub-
ject of drunkenness.

"How I hate a man with a crying drunk on
him," follows the sympathetic and womanly
Peggy Logan, but her original bit of repa-
re is when she, with a great deal of oiled, play-
fully remarks, "Go to it, ear-ear."

Let me see if I can remember the story of
this and playing play. There is a bold
woman who wears delectable dresses in
the morning and suffers from a severe
cold—serves her right doubly in love with an
amorous youth with whom, she is already
married, but her husband is dead, and she ap-
pears with a great deal of naïveté pro-
nounced last night "navily," upon her hus-
band's stepdaughter comes home, and Frank
lives in love with her instantly.

The delectable last night, she has a heating
in the morning, of course, she declares war. The
old gentleman and his widow, just be-
fore he breathes his last—before she is his
wife, in fact—is arranging a marriage with
Frank. Frank, however, is true to his instanc-
tion.

The stepdaughter takes the girl away and
locks her up in a tower room, from which she
is finally rescued by Peggy Logan, a faithful
and ubiquitous and irritating servant. There
is a dear little subplot involving the theft of
\$50,000 in "S. S. Bonds" by a young man from
his mother, and favored very strongly with
comic relief, and a touching French
maid. It is a mistake to say that such plays as
these "go on" the Bowery. Borey and
borey are critical and intelligent. "The Step-
daughter" is weak and silly from beginning to
end, with nothing to recommend it but a few
of Peggy Logan's bits that were not coarse.

Miss Anne White, who was very long-
voiced and aggressive. The roar of the El-
ectric road could not drown her leather ac-
cents. She was the Peggy Logan, who always
had the centre of the stage, even when the
delectable lady was there. Miss Barclay
was the delectable lady, and she has too much
merit for such a play. Miss Blanche, who is a
sweet little girl, with great ingenu-
ousness. The men were abominable. What a col-
lection! The sole exception was Arthur Living-
ston, who had trained his arms into a proper
understanding with the rest of his body.

ALAN DALE.

VACANT VERSES.

"Now I Lay Me Down to Sleep."
In the quiet nursery chamber,
Sleepy pillow yet unspread,
Kneeling beside her cot her rest,
Who the dusky shadows creep,
And the moonlight gleams o'er her head,
Now I lay me down to sleep.

In the meadow and the mountain
Side, where the wind is blowing,
And the moonlight gleams o'er her head,
Now I lay me down to sleep.

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ALAN DALE.

THE BOLD SHIRT FASHION.

He was sitting on the sofa,
And the elegant young man
Was sitting on the sofa,
And the elegant young man
Was sitting on the sofa,

He was sitting on the sofa,
And the elegant young man
Was sitting on the sofa,
And the elegant young man
Was sitting on the sofa,

He was sitting on the sofa,
And the elegant young man
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